(d) Whenever vacancies for cabin crew in the national carrier arise, advertisements are issued and necessary concessions as per Government rules are given to the Scheduled Tribe candidates. On their selection as Cabin Crew, they are imparted in-house training as per guidelines issued by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). DGCA does not recognise any course offered by private agencies for air hostess training.

Pilferation of baggage/luggage at Delhi and Mumbai airports

5. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the baggage/luggage of passengers are stolen by some mafias at the Delhi and Mumbai airports;

(b) if so, details of complaints received in this regard during the last three years;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed in such incidents;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to ensure that in future baggage/luggage may not be misplaced/pilferated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected from Delhi and Mumbai Police.

(e) Scheduled domestic airlines have taken *inter alia* following steps to curb incidents of theft/pilferage at airports:

Passengers are advised not to carry their jewellery and cash in their checked-in-baggage; In-house vigilance team of airlines at major airports to check cases of theft/pilferage; All loaders are frisked thoroughly before and after the loading;Enhanced vigilance at airports; Loading/unloading of checked in bagage under supervision of Security/Airport services staff; Automated Baggage Reconciliation system at metros to reduce instances of such mishandling; External training is imparted to ramp staff (especially loaders) on baggage handling; Surveilance is maintained on check in baggages by Security/commercial personnel from X-ray BIS Baggage Make up Area and still loading in the aircraft; CIW (Crime & Intelligence Wing) staff has been geared up/to enhance the surveillance in and around the airport premises. The CCTV coverage of the airport is being progressively improved to curb undersirable activities; Crack teams to conduct surprise checking and frisking of loaders have been formed.

Efficacy of ILS and Category-III system at IGI Airport

6. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Instrument Landing System (ILS) at Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) is not functioning properly, causing inconvenience to passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether various airlines were unable to use the CAT-III System for landing at IGI Airport in the month of January this year;

(d) if so, whether Government has since taken any corrective steps to ensure that ILS and CAT-III systems at IGI Airport function in a smooth way; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The Instrument Landing System (ILS) at IGI Airport has been functioning properly. However, only on two occasions ILS CAT III could not be made available due to non-availibility of remote status indication of glide path on 10th January, 2008 during 0800 to 1000 hours and on 11th January, 2008 during 0800 to 0950 hours.

(d) and (e) A temporary remote cable was laid from glide path *via* existing unit and remote indication was provided.

National Aeronautics Commission

7. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a National Aeronautics Commission;

(b) if so, the scope/brief of the Commission; and

(c) who shall be its members?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Setting up of National Aeronautics Commission is at conceptual stage.

Construction of heliport

8. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to build a floating heliport in Mumbai to beat the heavy traffic;

(b) whether it is also proposed to build a helipad at the Commonwealth Games Village in Delhi and another at the AIIMS for emergency and trauma care purposes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Construction of floating heliport in Mumbai is in the conceptual state.

(b) and (c) Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) is in discussion with Delhi Development Authority for allotment of land at suitable place near Akshardham Temple for construction of heliport. All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) requested for grant of permission for landing of helicopter on the elevated helipad at Jai Prakash Narain Apex Trauma Centre, AIIMS New Delhi in August, 2007.

AIIMS was advised to follow the guidelines for authorisation for elevated (roof top) helipad and guidelines for preparation of helipad as per Civil Aviation Requirements and prepare Standard Operating Procedures for operation of helicopters from the proposed helipads.